PRESIDENT : Rightly or wrongly the Government have arrived at this decision. It may be that it was very unfortunate on the part of the Government to have arrived at the decision without appointing a Committee. Government came to the conclusion that if a Committee were to be appointed, it would take five or ten years to make its report and that in the result nothing would be done.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know why the Government were driven to that misfortune of deciding so, without consulting the public opinion of the country ?

PRESIDENT : Government have consulted public opinion and only then have they arrived at the decision.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know how that opinion was arrived at ? Did the Government hold a conference ?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : While we are really in favour of the principle, the system of administering it may be certainly left to a Committee to decide. But while we agree to the Peishkars taking public opinion, we would like to see a Committee of the Legislature also going into the question.

MR. P. M. VARGHESE (*Meenachil* cum *Thodupuzha*) : How can public opinion be ascertained except through this House ?

PRESIDENT : Public opinion can be ascertained otherwise.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : Is it not putting the cart before the horse if the Peishkars are directed to ascertain the views before the practical difficulties are realised ?

PRESIDENT : Order, order. The cart is the decision. The horse will be attached to the cart. (*Laughter*).

MR. P. M. VARGHESE : If there are other means of ascertaining public opinion, what are they ?

PRESIDENT : The members of this House and of the other House could be called in conference and a decision arrived at.

Land Revenue System.

3 ***MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before Government to change the existing land revenue system in the State ;

(*b*) whether they have taken steps to ascertain the opinion of the legislature on the new proposal ;

(*c*) whether they are aware that the Government of Mysore have stated in the Legislative Assembly on 27th June 1945 that a committee consisting of officials and non-officials would be constituted for the purpose of going into the question of the revision of land revenue system in Mysore ; and

(*d*) whether they have considered the desirability of constituting such a committee in Travancore ?

MR. G. NARAYANAN TAMPI : The member is referred to the Dewan-President's statement at the joint sitting of the Legislature on 20-7-'45

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